

**CLAIMS**

1. A digital camera comprising:

an imaging unit operable to generate an image by photographing an object;

5           a receiving unit operable to receive information relating to image processing from one or more transmission devices;

10          a judging unit operable to judge whether the image is to be output or not, based on the information received by the receiving unit; and

15          an output unit operable to, in accordance with the judgment made by the judging unit, output the image to a memory, or discard the image, the memory being readable by the digital camera or an external device.

2. The digital camera of Claim 1, wherein  
the judging unit further judges whether the image is to be processed or not, and  
the output unit outputs the image to the memory without  
20 processing, or processes and outputs the image to the memory, in accordance with the judgment made by the judging unit.

3. The digital camera of Claim 2, wherein

the receiving unit includes:

25          a first receiving unit operable to receive first information from a first transmission device; and  
              a second receiving unit operable to receive second information indicating image modification corresponding to the object from a second transmission device,

the judging unit makes the judgment based on the first information, and

if the judging unit judges that the image is to be processed and output, the output unit performs the image modification indicated by the second information on the image, 5 and outputs the modified image to the memory.

4. The digital camera of Claim 3, wherein

the output unit performs the image modification to make 10 the image visually distinguishable.

5. The digital camera of Claim 4, wherein

when the second receiving unit receives the second information, the judging unit examines whether the first 15 receiving unit has received the first information, and

if the first receiving unit has received the first information, the judging unit judges that the image is to be processed and output.

20 6. The digital camera of Claim 4, wherein

the first information includes information indicating image modification,

when the second receiving unit receives the second information, the judging unit examines whether the first 25 receiving unit has received the first information,

if the first receiving unit has received the first information, the judging unit judges that the image is to be processed and output, and the output unit performs the image modification indicated by the first information on the

image, in addition to the image modification indicated by the second information.

7. The digital camera of Claim 3, wherein

5       when the second receiving unit receives the second information, the judging unit examines whether the first receiving unit has received the first information,

      if the first receiving unit has received the first information, the judging unit judges that the image is to  
10      be output without being processed.

8. The digital camera of Claim 3, wherein

      when the second receiving unit receives the second information, the judging unit examines whether the first receiving unit has received the first information,

      if the first receiving unit has received the first information, the judging unit judges that the image is not to be output.

20     9. The digital camera of Claim 3, wherein

      the first transmission device is a gate which prestores the first information, and through which a user carrying the digital camera passes, and

25       the second transmission device is an IC tag which prestores the second information, and which is attached to, hung around, or provided near the object.

10. The digital camera of Claim 9, further comprising:

      a driving unit operable to, when detecting that a shutter

release button included in the digital camera is pressed down, cause the imaging unit and the second receiving unit to operate concurrently.

5 11. The digital camera of Claim 10, wherein  
the digital camera has a function as a mobile telephone  
for performing radio communication.

12. The digital camera of Claim 2, wherein  
10 the transmission device is an IC tag that is attached  
to, hung around, or provided near the object, and that prestores  
the information which indicates image processing  
corresponding to the object,

15 the judging unit judges that the image is to be subjected  
to the image processing indicated by the information, and  
then to be output, and

the output unit subjects the image to the image  
processing, and outputs the processed image to the memory.

20 13. The digital camera of Claim 12, further comprising:  
a driving unit operable to, when detecting that a shutter  
release button included in the digital camera is pressed down,  
cause the imaging unit and the receiving unit to operate  
concurrently.

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14. The digital camera of Claim 13, wherein  
the output unit executes an image processing program  
corresponding to the image processing to make the image  
visually distinguishable.

15. The digital camera of Claim 13, wherein  
the receiving unit receives the information which is  
character data showing an explanation about the object,

5           the judging unit judges that the image is to be subjected  
to the image processing which indicates addition of the  
character data to the image, and then output, and  
             the output unit subjects the image to the image  
processing which indicates the addition of the character data  
10          to the image, and outputs the processed image to the memory.

16. The digital camera of Claim 13, wherein

the receiving unit receives the information which is  
copyright information indicating a limitation on copying of  
15          the image,

             the judging unit judges that the image is to be subjected  
to the image processing which indicates addition of the  
copyright information to the image, and then output, and  
             the output unit subjects the image to the image  
processing which indicates the addition of the copyright  
20          information to the image, and outputs the processed image  
              to the memory.

17. The digital camera of Claim 13, wherein

25          the receiving unit receives the information which is  
a computer program to perform predetermined image  
modification,

             the judging unit judges that the image is to be subjected  
to the image processing which indicates (i) execution of the

computer program to perform the predetermined image modification on the image, or (ii) addition of the computer program to the image, and then output, and

the output unit subjects the image to the image

5 processing which indicates the predetermined image modification, or the addition of the computer program to the image, and outputs the processed image to the memory.

18. A memory card attached to a digital camera that generates

10 image data by photographing an object, the memory card storing the image data, comprising:

an image receiving unit operable to receive an image generated by the digital camera;

15 a receiving unit operable to receive information relating to image processing from one or more transmission devices;

20 a judging unit operable to, based on the information received by the receiving unit, judge whether the image is to be output without being processed, the image is to be processed and output, or the image is not to be output;

an output unit operable to, in accordance with the judgment made by the judging unit, output the image without processing, process and output the image, or discard the image; and

25 a storing unit operable to store the image output from the output unit.

19. A digital camera system including a digital camera that photographs an object, and a first transmission device that

is attached to, hung around, or provided near the object,  
the digital camera comprising:

an imaging unit operable to generate an image by  
photographing the object;

5 a receiving unit operable to receive first information  
relating to image processing corresponding to the object,  
from the first transmission device;

a judging unit operable to, based on the first  
information, judge whether the image is to be output without  
10 being processed, the image is to be processed and output,  
or the image is not to be output; and

15 an output unit operable to, in accordance with the  
judgment made by the judging unit, output the image to a memory  
without processing, processes and outputs the image to the  
memory, or discards the image, the memory being readable by  
the digital camera or an external device, and

the first transmission device comprising:

a first storing unit prestoring the first information;  
and

20 a first transmission unit operable to transmit the first  
information to the digital camera.

20. The digital camera system of Claim 19, further including  
a second transmission device,

25 the second transmission device comprising:

a second storing unit prestoring second information  
relating to image modification; and

a second transmission unit operable to transmit the  
second information to the digital camera, wherein

the receiving unit further receives the second information from the second transmission device, when a user carrying the digital camera passes through the second transmission device, and

5 when the judging unit judges that the image is to be processed and output, the output unit performs the image modification indicated by the second information on the image, in addition to the image processing indicated by the first information, and then outputs the modified image to the memory.

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21. The digital camera system of Claim 20, wherein the digital camera has a function as a mobile telephone for performing radio communication.

15 22. The digital camera system of Claim 21, further including a terminal that generates a warning sound, the terminal being provided near the object, wherein

the digital camera sends a signal to the terminal, concurrently with the generation of the image by the imaging 20 unit, and

the terminal comprises:

a signal receiving unit operable to receive the signal from the digital camera; and

25 a sound generating unit operable to generate a warning sound, when the signal receiving unit receives the signal.

23. A control method for use in a digital camera, comprising steps of:

generating an image by photographing an object;

receiving information relating to image processing from one or more transmission devices;

judging whether the image is to be output or not, based on the information received in the receiving step; and

5       outputting the image to a memory, or discarding the image, in accordance with the judgment made in the judging step, the memory being readable by the digital camera or an external device.

10      24. A control program for use in a digital camera, comprising steps of:

generating an image by photographing an object;

receiving information relating to image processing from one or more transmission devices;

15      judging whether the image is to be output or not, based on the information received in the receiving step; and

outputting the image to a memory, or discarding the image, in accordance with the judgment made in the judging step, the memory being readable by the digital camera or an external 20 device.

25      25. A computer-readable storage medium storing a control program for use in a digital camera, the control program comprising steps of:

generating an image by photographing an object;

receiving information relating to image processing from one or more transmission devices;

judging whether the image is to be output or not, based on the information received in the receiving step; and

outputting the image to a memory, or discarding the image, in accordance with the judgment made in the judging step, the memory being readable by the digital camera or an external device.

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